

# Annual Report

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

TO THE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

WELLINGBOROUGH,

for the year 1907.

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# Annual Report

for the year 1907.



*The Chairman of the Wellingborough Urban District Council,  
Wellingborough.*

Sir,

I beg to forward you my Medical Report for the Urban Sanitary District of Wellingborough for the year 1907.

The Population has very slightly increased since the year 1906.

The Birth-rate has decreased considerably.

The number of inhabited houses in 1907 was 4667. If we allow 4·5 persons to each house, this gives us a population of about 20,810. The number of births was 387, Boys 202, Girls 185. Of this number 16 were illegitimate, giving a birth-rate of 18·5, which is lower than in 1906, and is very low.

The number of deaths is 217 at all ages, a marked decrease from the year before, giving a death-rate of 10·4. But there were 12 deaths of non-residents, and these being deducted gives the death-rate of 9·8, which is very low. Of these deaths 76 were of persons over 65 years of age; and of children under one year, were 29 only. There were four only from Premature Birth, a less number than last year. There were only ten under one month. Further details can be seen in Table V. There were 14 deaths from Phthisis in adults, and 15 from Bronchitis and 23 from Pneumonia in adults and children; about the same number as in last year.

The deaths from Cancer were about the same as last year, viz: 20, all over 25 years of age.

There was only one death from Typhoid Fever.

There were two deaths from Scarlet Fever and two from Measles.

The number of Infectious diseases notified throughout the year was 80, viz: Scarlet Fever, 43; Enteric, 2; Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup, 10; Erysipelas, 24; Puerperal Fever, 1.

Of the two cases of Enteric, one was notified in April, but nothing could be found to account for the illness; the other case occurred in June, and was of a serious and complicated nature, proving fatal. It was imported from a neighbouring village and taken to the Workhouse Infirmary. The 24 cases of Erysipelas were spread throughout the year; there were two deaths, both in the month of May.

There were 43 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, 8 were imported, 14 arose from direct infection, 3 from insanitary conditions, 5 were of a very mild type, and the remainder there was no apparent cause. From the month of July there was a sudden decline; in October there was only one case, and none in November or December. I consider this very satisfactory, as we know there have been severe epidemics in various parts of the country, and also in our immediate neighbourhood. No doubt this is largely due to the very conscientious and efficient manner in which the Sanitary Inspector has fulfilled his duties.

There were 10 cases of Diphtheria notified; this includes 2 cases of Membranous Croup, both of which were fatal. Three cases of Diphtheria arose from insanitary conditions, which were remedied where necessary. There was no apparent cause for the other cases. Although there were 2 deaths from Measles, one in January and one in June, there was no epidemic.

The number of Infectious diseases notified gives a rate of 3·8 per 1,000; and deducting Erysipelas, 2·6 only for the whole year.

There was one case of Puerperal Fever in March, and the cause of the illness, apparently, largely appeared to be poverty and unhealthy surroundings.

The Isolation Hospital for Zymotic diseases is in good order, and has lately been repaired and renovated. The floor has been thoroughly disinfected and varnished. It has been used during the year for 20 Scarlet Fever cases. There were no deaths.

It is greatly to be desired that a Ward should be allotted for Enteric Fever cases, and I would urge that steps be taken to make this feasible.

The Small Pox Hospital is situated about a mile from the town, is in good order and ready for use.

The Urban District Council have a good and plentiful supply of water for the public requirements, but it is hard and often has too much white sediment, which makes it inconvenient. The new and improved system to carry out the softening and filtering of the water is now in progress, and when completed will, it is expected, remedy any defects that exist.

The Slaughter Houses have been visited regularly and found in a clean and healthy state. Any defects in whitewashing or flooring were remedied and put in proper order. Every butcher has sufficient space for slaughtering, and all offals and refuse are removed at once.



There are 27 Dairies, 16 Cowsheds, and 30 Milkshops, which are in a satisfactory condition, and all are Registered. There are Regulations and Bye-Laws.

House refuse is collected weekly from all parts of the Urban District regularly, removed to a proper place outside the district and destroyed by incineration.

From regular and systematic inspections of the district every defect noticed and reported on regarding insanitary conditions of houses, premises and drains have been properly and efficiently remedied. The keeping of pigs, etc., when found to be a nuisance has been stopped. Old houses unfit for human habitation, after being reported on, have been removed or rendered habitable. There were six cases of overcrowding, the usual notices were served and the nuisances remedied.

The Lodging Houses have been regularly visited and found in a proper state and are Registered.

Very good and necessary improvements have been lately carried out in the centre of the Urban District, streets widened and good shops erected, and it is hoped that further alterations will soon be carried out in the same locality which are absolutely required for the public safety in the main street. The new Post Office close to this part is a great improvement.

The main sewers and the drainage of the town connected with houses are in good order and in an efficient state. The Sewage is treated by broad irrigation at the Sewage Farm in a satisfactory manner at a distance of two miles. Disinfection has been carried out efficiently by the Sanitary Inspector, disinfectants supplied in all cases of Zymotic diseases, as well as Phthisis, and houses have been carefully disinfected.

During the year there was no case detected of meat or fish unfit for human food being exposed for sale.

I am pleased to state that the notification of Births Act has been adopted by the Urban District Council and awaits sanction by the Local Government Board.

Although the Infantile Mortality in this Urban District is lower than 1906, viz : 74·9 per 1,000 instead of 109·8 per 1,000, which is largely due to the decrease in deaths from premature births, I am strongly of the opinion that this "Act" improved and properly carried out will be a means of diminishing Infantile Mortality.

The County Medical Officer of Health has placed a lady health visitor in this Town and District, viz : Finedon and Rushden, to attend all infants with their mothers, to give advice as regards feeding and their health. I supply her with a list of all Births in this Urban District, and she reports to me that her visits are always appreciated and desired. I am much surprised that the Medical Practitioners in this County are opposed to the adoption of the "Act."

The requirements of the Factories and Workshops Act of 1901 have been duly enforced, and where notices have been served for improvements they have been properly and efficiently carried out.

There were 427 Inspections of Factories, Workshops and Laundries, also of Workplaces, and 56 written notices. The defects found were 55, remedied 55, viz: 36 want of cleanliness, 3 want of ventilation, 4 overcrowding, 1 want of drainage of floors, 6 insufficient sanitary accommodation, 3 defective ditto, 2 not separate for both sexes. Homework: lists received from employers twice in the year. Wearing apparel 15, outworkers 225; Brushmaking 2, outworkers 6. Number of addresses received from other Councils 18, those forwarded to other Councils 23. Number of inspections of outworkers' premises 190; outwork in unwholesome premises 2; notices served 2.

Registered Workshops 175.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories 6; reports of action taken and sent to H.M. Inspector 6; underground Bakehouses: certificates granted 2.

It affords me great pleasure to give so satisfactory and favourable report regarding the health and sanitary condition of the town. The Birth-rate is very much lower than it has ever been before, but the Death-rate is the lowest on record.

I beg to thank Mr. Madge, the Sanitary Inspector, for his very efficient services all through the year, and for the excellent way he has carried out the duties of his office.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

WM. WAKE CLARK, M.D., &c.,

Medical Officer of Health, Urban District of  
Wellingborough.

Table I. Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1907 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES belonging to the District.			
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.				Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1897	17,072	494	34.7	64	129.59	243	14.23	33	13		243	12.1	
1898	17,406	502	28.8	68	135.45	219	12.38	36	6		230	12.5	
1899	17,740	458	25.8	73	155.02	265	14.37	32	5		216	11.1	
1900	18,074	489	27	58	116.50	256	14.16	42	19		213	10.7	
1901	18,412	529	28.7	59	111.5	236	12.8	54	25		225	11.14	
1902	19,400	438	22.57	56	127.8	221	11.4	32	18		207	10.1	
1903	19,872	511	25.7	50	97.8	232	11.68	44	12		226	10.8	
1904	20,180	482	23.8	61	127.3	250	12.3						
1905	20,480	461	22.5	54	117.1	225	10.9						
1906	20,780	437	21.02	48	109.8	238	11.4						
Averages for years 1897-1906	18,941.6	480.1	25.3	59.1	123	238.5	12.5						
1907	20,810	387	18.5	29	74.9	217	10.4	41	12		205	9.8	

\* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water). } 3905.

Total Population at all ages—18,412.  
Number of inhabited houses—4,047.  
Average number of persons per house—4.5.

} At Census of 1901.



I. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	II. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	III. Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
UNION WORKHOUSE		
Is the Union Workhouse within the District? <b>YES.</b>		



Table II. Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1907 and previous years.

Names of Localities.	1.				2.				3.				4.				5.				6.				7.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1897	17,072	494	243	64																								
1898	17,406	502	219	68																								
1899	17,740	458	265	73																								
1900	18,074	489	256	58																								
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1904	20,180	482	225	61																								
1905	20,480	461	207	54																								
1906	20,780	437	226	48																								
Averages of Years 1897 to 1906	18,941.6	480.1	238.5	59.1																								
1907	20,810	387	217	29																								

Table III. Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1907.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.							NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.												
	At all ages.	At Ages—Years.					65 and upwards	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
		Under 1	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.																				
Small-pox .....																										
Cholera .....																										
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup) }	10	2	8																							
Erysipelas .....	24		3		17																					
Scarlet fever .....	43	12	25	5	1																					
Typhus fever .....																										
Enteric fever .....	2				2																					
Relapsing fever.....																										
Continued fever .....																										
Puerperal fever .....	1				1																					
Plague .....																										
<i>Totals</i> - - -	80	14	36	5	21	4																				21

*Isolation Hospital, Wellingborough Urban.*





## Notes to Tables IV. and V.

- (a) In Table IV., all deaths of "Residents" occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be *included* with the other deaths in the columns for the several age groups (columns 2-8). They are also, in column 9-15, to be *included* among the deaths in their respective "Localities" according to the previous addresses of the deceased as given by the Registrars. Deaths of "Non-residents" occurring in public institutions in the district are in like manner to be *excluded* from columns 2-8 and 9-15 of Table IV.
- (b) See notes on Table I. as to the meaning of "Residents" and "Non-residents," and as to the "Public Institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables. The "Localities" in Table IV. should be the same as those in Tables II. and III.
- (c) All deaths occurring in public institutions situated within the district, whether of "Residents" or of "Non-residents," are, in addition to being dealt with as in note (a), to be entered in the last column of Table IV. The total number in this column should equal the figures for the year in column 9, Table I.
- (d) The total deaths in the several "Localities" in columns 9-15 of Table IV. should equal those for the year in the same localities in Table II., sub-columns c. The total deaths at all ages in column 2 of Table IV. should equal the gross total of columns 9-15, and the figures for the year in column 12 of Table I.
- (e) Under the heading of "Diarrhœa" are to be included deaths registered as due to Epidemic diarrhœa, Epidemic enteritis, Infective enteritis, Zymotic enteritis, Summer diarrhœa, Dysentery and Dysenteric diarrhœa, Choleraic diarrhœa, Cholera and Cholera Nostras.
- In addition, and as regards deaths of children *under one year of age*, under the heading "Diarrhœa" in column 3 (Table IV.) are to be included all deaths classified as "Diarrhœal diseases" in Table V.
- Under the heading of "Enteritis" in Table IV., are to be included only deaths *over one year of age* registered as due to Enteritis, Mucro-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis, Gastric catarrh, Gastritis, and Gastro-intestinal catarrh, unless from information obtained by enquiry from the certifying practitioner or otherwise, the Medical Officer of Health should have reason for including such deaths, under the specific term "Diarrhœa." Deaths from diarrhœa secondary to some other well-defined disease should be included under the latter.
- (f) Under the headings of "Cancer" and "Puerperal fever" should be included all registered deaths from causes comprised within these general terms. Thus: Under "Cancer" should be included deaths from Cancer, Carcinoma, Malignant disease, Scirrhus, Epithelioma, Sarcoma, Villous tumour, and Papilloma of bladder, Rodent ulcer. Under "Puerperal fever" are to be included deaths from Pyæmia, Septicæmia, Sapræmia, Pelvic peritonitis, Peri- and Endo-Metritis occurring in the Puerperium.
- (g) Under "Congenital Defects" in Table V. are to be included deaths from Atelectasis, Icterus neonatorum, Naval hæmorrhage, Malformations and Congenital hydrocephalus.
- (h) Under "Tuberculous Meningitis" are to be included deaths from Acute hydrocephalus.
- (i) Under "Other Tuberculous Diseases" are to be included deaths from Tuberculosis, Tuberculosis of bones, joints and other organs, Lupus and Scrofula.
- (j) All deaths certified by registered Medical Practitioners and all Inquest cases are to be classed as "Certified"; all other deaths are to be regarded as "Uncertified."

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., II., III., IV. and V., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

WM. W. CLARK, M.D.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

*January 31st, 1908.*





# FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES and HOMEWORK.

## 1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Factories ... .. (Including Factory Laundries.)	102	12	
Workshops ... .. (Including Workshop Laundries.)	300	40	
Workplaces ... .. (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report.)	25	4	
Total ... ..	427	56	

## 2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness ... ..	36	36		
Want of ventilation ... ..	3	3		
Overcrowding ... ..	4	4		
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	1	1		
Other nuisances ... ..				
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient ... ..	6	6		
{ unsuitable or defective	3	3		
{ not separate for sexes	2	2		
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101) ... ..				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100) ... ..				
Other offences ... .. (Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report.)				
Total ... ..	55	55		

\* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8, of the Factory and Workshop Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.



NATURE OF WORK.	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.										OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESALE PREMISES, SECTION 108.			OUTWORK IN INFECTED PREMISES, SECTIONS 109, 110.			
	Lists received from Employers.					Addresses of Outworkers.		Prosecutions.			Inspection of Outworkers' premises (12)	Instances (13)	Notices served. (14)	Prosecutions. (15)	Instances (16)	Orders made (S. 110). (17)	Prosecutions (Sections 109, 110). (18)
	Twice in the year.		Once in the year.			Received from other Councils. (8)	Forwarded to other Councils. (9)	Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists. (10)	Failing to send lists. (11)								
	Lists (2)	Contractors. (3)	Workmen. (4)	Lists (5)	Contractors. (6)					Outworkers. (7)							
Wearing Apparel—	15																
(1) making, &c. ....																	
(2) cleaning and washing } Lace, lace curtains and nets Artificial flowers Nets, other than wire nets ... Tents Sacks Furniture and upholstery ... Fur pulling Feather sorting Umbrellas, &c. Carding, &c., of buttons, &c. Paper bags and boxes Basket making Brush making Racquet and tennis balls Stuffed toys File making Electro-plate Cables and chains Anchors and grapnels Cart gear Locks, latches and keys Pea Picking	225	6				18	23		190	2	2						
Total	17		231			18	23		190	2	2						

**4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.**

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year. (1)	Number. (2)
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses may be enumerated here.	175
	175
Total number of workshops on Register ... ..	175

**5.—OTHER MATTERS.**

Class. (1)	Number. (2)
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory & Workshop Act (s. 133) ...	6
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5)	6
Other ... ..	
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year ... ..	
In use at the end of the year ... ..	2

WM. W. CLARK, M.D.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

*January 31st, 1908.*